

Advisory No. 158, s. 2025

November 28, 2025

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit www.depedbatangas.com)

INVITATION TO 24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad

With reference to the invitation to participate in the activity by University of the Philippines Chemical Kinetics Society titled “24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad,” attached is a copy of a letter from President, Ma. Charlene T. Ballada, containing the details of the activity.

Participation of learners and teachers from public and private schools shall be purely voluntary and will not hamper instructional time in compliance with the provisions of DepEd Order (DO) No. 022, s. 2023 titled Implementing Guidelines on the School Calendar and Activities for the School Year 2023–2024 and DO 9, s. 2005 titled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith and the policy on off-campus activities stated in DO 66, s. 2017.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A.Y. 2025-2026

Ma. Charlene T. Ballada
President

Sanchai V. Sancha
Executive Vice President

Mary Lou Feliz A. Torino
Vice President for Academics

Ellizha Mae C. Martinez
Vice President for Administrative Affairs

Kristine Lorraine S. Paed
Vice President for Finance

Raymond M. De Asis
Vice President for Publications

James N. Pasamba
Vice President for External Affairs

John Thomas A. Luzon
Auditor

ADVISERS

Asst. Prof. Bethel Faith Y. Rezaga RCh, MSc.
Non-Affiliated Faculty Adviser

Ms. Hannah Desiree Magpantay, RCh
Affiliated Faculty Adviser

UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños

17 November 2025

Marites A. Ibañez
Superintendent
Department of Education
Batangas Division

Dear **Hon. Ibañez:**

Greetings!

The **UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society**, otherwise known as **UPLB CHEMO**, is a duly recognized student organization of the University of the Philippines Los Baños with an ambition to make a positive impact on both the University and the Philippine Society through the promotion and development of Chemistry and other related fields. For over 33 years, it continues to strive to achieve this undertaking, by upholding honor and excellence in the service of the nation.

On **January 17, 2026**, the organization, in coordination with the **Kapisanang Kimika ng Pilipinas–Southern Tagalog Chapter, Inc. (KKP-ST Inc.)** and in partnership with **Institute of Chemistry, UPLB (IC-UPLB)**, once again will host the 24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad with the theme “**ProdAKSYON: Kapnayan sa Pagsibol ng Binhi ng Bukas.**” The event serves as the avenue for the selection of brightest representatives from Region IV-A and IV-B to the upcoming Philippine National Chemistry Olympiad (PNCO). Additionally, the event will also host three contest subevents namely: the **15th Regional Essay Writing Contest**, **22nd Regional CHEM-in-Hue a poster making contest**, and **1st Extemporaneous Speech Contest**. The organization will also host a **Symposium** and an **Exhibit** to further raise awareness on Agricultural Chemistry, Crop Science, and Food Security.

The Organization is committed to advancing the pursuit of chemistry and igniting enthusiasm for the sciences to the Filipino people. Hence, the UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society proudly hosts the Regional Chemistry Olympiad events without hesitation. The goals of these events are to foster collaboration among schools in the region, to promote chemistry mainly to students and teachers, and generally to the Filipino people, and to nurture the enthusiasm of young chemists in the country.

alta
chemo

Facebook: /UPLBchemokinesis
Twitter: @uplbchemo1992
Email: uplbchemo1992@gmail.com



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A.Y. 2025-2026

Ma. Charlene T. Ballada
President

Sanchai V. Sancha
Executive Vice President

Mary Lou Feliz A. Torino
Vice President for Academics

Ellizha Mae C. Martinez
Vice President for Administrative Affairs

Kristine Lorraine S. Paed
Vice President for Finance

Raymond M. De Asis
Vice President for Publications

James N. Pasamba
Vice President for External Affairs

John Thomas A. Luzon
Auditor

ADVISERS

Asst. Prof. Bethel Faith Y. Rezaga RCh, MSc.
Non-Affiliated Faculty Adviser

Ms. Hannah Desiree Magpantay, RCh
Affiliated Faculty Adviser

UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños

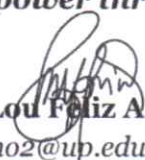
With this, the UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society is requesting your **good office for help to widen the reach of the said event through a Department of Education (DepEd) Advisory** to advocate the participation for the 24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad of schools in your division. The said advisory would help in informing the division's constituent high schools and encourage them to participate in the event.

The whole event will take place in the Physical Sciences Building at the University of the Philippines Los Baños in Los Baños, Laguna.

If you have further questions or clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact us through our official email, **uplbchemo1992@gmail.com** or the education committee email, **ecc.uplbcks@gmail.com**. You may also contact the Vice President for Academics or the President for immediate response.

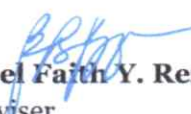
We are looking forward to your positive response. Thank you!

To empower through the fields of chemistry,

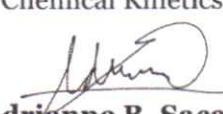

Mary Lou Feliz A. Torino
matorino2@up.edu.ph
Vice President for Academics
UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society


Ma. Charlene T. Ballada
mtballada1@up.edu.ph
President
UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

Noted by:


Asst. Prof. Bethel Faith Y. Rezaga, RCh, M.Sc.
Non-Affiliated Adviser
UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society


Ms. Hannah Desiree A. Magpantay, RCh
Affiliated Adviser
UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society


Mr. Adrienne B. Sacan, RCh
Head of Regional Coordinator Committee for Region IV
Philippine National Olympiad



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

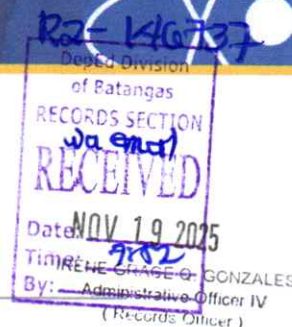
UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

In cooperation with

Kapisanang Kimika ng Pilipinas - Southern Tagalog, Inc.

and in partnership with

Institute of Chemistry - UPLB



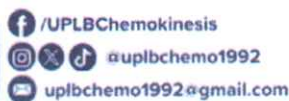
24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad

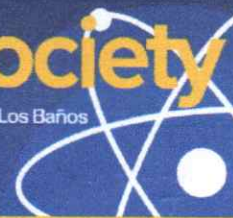
"ProdAKSYON: Kapnayan sa Pagsibol ng Binhi ng Bukas"

Official Mechanics

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- The **24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad** is an event open to all Department of Education accredited private and public high schools in **Region IV-A (CALABARZON) and Region IV-B (MIMAROPA)**. It will be held in various rooms at the **Physical Sciences Building, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna** on **January 17, 2026, Saturday** at **7:30 AM**.
- Each school shall send a delegation of at most **nine (9) participants**:
 - Maximum of three (3) participants for the Philippine National Chemistry Olympiad (PNCO) Regional Elimination for Region IV;
 - Maximum of two (2) participants for the Chem-in-Hue;
 - Maximum of two (2) participants for the Essay Writing; and
 - Maximum of two (2) participants for the Extemporaneous Speech.
- A maximum of three (3) coaches are allowed to accompany the students.
- Each participant will be graded individually in their respective contest.
- Participants must be in their respective school uniforms with their school ID for the duration of the contest.
- Participants may register through the link (<https://tinyurl.com/23rdRCORegForm>)
 - The **deadline of registration** is on **January 12, 2026, Monday** at **11:59 PM**.
 - The form will ask for the coaches' Facebook link. A Facebook Messenger Group Chat will be made for the announcements regarding the event.
- A registration fee per participant shall be paid upon registration.
 - The **payment** may be settled **before or on the day of the event**. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the participants.
- The Symposium, Extemporaneous Speech, and PNCO Eliminations Final Round events are open to all interested participants.





PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD ELIMINATIONS (REGION IV) OFFICIAL MECHANICS

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- The **24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad: PNCO Eliminations** will include **three (3) components**: the **elimination round**, **laboratory examination**, and **final round**, which is a quiz contest.
- Each school can delegate a maximum of **three (3) participants** to the said event. Student representatives for the 24th RCO: PNCO Eliminations must be enrolled in high school level during the Regional Chemistry Olympiad (RCO) 2026 and Philippine National Chemistry Olympiad (PNCO) 2026, and must not be enrolled in college during the International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) 2026 period.
- There will be a registration fee of **Php 500.00 for each participant** of the said event.
 - Upon registration, coaches are required to attach proof of payment and identification of the participant/s. *Kindly note that the organization will only be able to provide an acknowledgement receipt as UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society is a non-profit organization.*

A. Qualification Round

- The qualification round will be in the form of a written exam. The **exam comprises 50 questions** which is worth a **total of 50 points**. This must be completed within **90 minutes**.
- Participants will be **seated in the assigned room** and provided with a copy of the questionnaire. Proctors will explain the rules outlined in the questionnaire.
- Participants are **prohibited from sharing any materials**. Any questions must be directed to the proctors only.
- **All participants are required to take the written exam**. Latecomers may still participate as long as the exam period is ongoing, but they will only have the remaining time to complete their answers. All exam papers will be distributed and collected at the same time.



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

- Once the exam has started, participants cannot leave the room for any reason including restroom breaks. They may only exit after all the participants have submitted their answer sheets, which cannot be retrieved once turned in.
- The **top 20 individual scorers** will qualify for the **Laboratory Exam and Final Round**.
- In the event of a tie in the final scores, it will be resolved through tie-breaker questions, each worth 1 point. This tie-breaker round will take place just **before announcing the top 20 scorers**. It will resemble a quiz contest using a whiteboard (or bond paper) and markers. The first participant to score a point will be declared the winner. If both answer correctly or incorrectly, a new question will be posed, and this process will continue until a winner is identified.
- **Any form of cheating will result in immediate disqualification.**

B. Laboratory Exam

- **All participants within the top 20 are required to take the laboratory examination.** The announcement of the Top 20 qualifiers will be made by the RCO Program and PNCO Eliminations Committee, along with a printed list that will be posted.
- The **written laboratory examination** consists of **20 questions** and must be completed within **30 minutes**. For the 24th RCO, the **moving exam system will not be implemented**, and no laboratory set-ups will be included. **There is no need to bring a lab gown.**
- The participants will be **seated in the assigned room** and provided with a copy of the questionnaire along with a folder. **Seating is randomized** and not according to their respective ranks in the Top 20. The proctors will explain the rules outlined in the questionnaire prior to the examination.
- The participants are **prohibited from sharing any materials**. Any questions must be directed to the proctors only.
- **Final answers should be encircled or boxed**, failing to do so will be considered as submitting no answer. For items requiring problem solving, **answers with no solution shown will not be credited**. Other considerations for deductions will be given as follows:
 - Improper significant figures - 0.5 point
 - Improper units - 1 point



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

- Once the exam has started, participants cannot leave the room for any reason, including restroom breaks. They may only exit after all participants have submitted their answer sheets, which cannot be retrieved once they are turned in.
- After the exam has ended, the scores along with the ranking will not be released. However, all the Top 20 participants are expected to proceed to the Final Round at the PhySci Lecture Hall A.
- **Any form of cheating will result in immediate disqualification.**

C. Quiz Contest (Final Round)

The final round will be open to the Top 20 individual scorers from the Qualification Round. This round will cover the following topics: **General Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry, Biochemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Physical Chemistry.**

- This round is divided into three categories: **Easy, Average, and Difficult.**
 - The scoring system for each category will be as follows:

Quantity	Round	Points
10	Easy	2
10	Average	3
10	Difficult	5

- The questions will be displayed on a screen as the quizmaster reads them aloud. Time limits will be provided before each question is presented. The question types will include **multiple choice, identification, and problem-solving.** Contestants should bring their **own scientific, non-programmable calculator.** Correct significant figures must be used in problem-solving when applicable.
- All answers must be recorded on the **provided answer sheets.** The students should stop writing after the time limit and raise their answer sheet once the cue is given. **Final answers should be encircled or boxed;** failing to do so will be considered as submitting no answer. Each student will be assigned one proctor to ensure that the guidelines in answering are followed. Failure to abide by the guidelines will result in no answer.
- In the event of a tie, **a tie-breaker round will take place.** This round will consist of **clincher questions**, each worth **1 point**, and will follow the same



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

format as the final round. The first participant to score 1 point will be declared the winner. If both participants answer correctly or incorrectly, another question will be asked, and this process will continue until a winner is determined.

- The participants are advised **not to erase their answers** if they have questions or need clarifications. The judges' decisions will be final and irrevocable.
- The contestant's score will be calculated by taking **40% of the Laboratory Examination score and 60% of the Final Round score**.
- **Any form of cheating will result in immediate disqualification.**

AWARDING

- Once the final scores of the contestants are compiled, the top five scorers will be recognized as **4th Runner Up, 3rd Runner Up, 2nd Runner Up, 1st Runner Up, and Champion**. They will receive the following prizes:

Rank	Prize
Champion	Php 4,500 + medal + certificate
1st Runner Up	Php 3,000 + medal + certificate
2nd Runner Up	Php 2,500 + medal + certificate
3rd Runner Up	Php 2,000 + medal + certificate
4th Runner Up	Php 1,500 + medal + certificate

- The **top five individual scorers** will also serve as the official delegates representing Region IV at the Philippine National Chemistry Olympiad.
- The top five individual scorers will also serve as the official delegates representing Region IV at the Philippine National Chemistry Olympiad.

Guidelines and mechanics are subject to change. Participants and coaches will be promptly notified for any modifications before the contest.



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

CHEM-IN-HUE OFFICIAL MECHANICS

GENERAL GUIDELINES

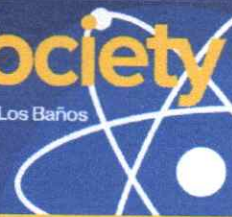
- Each school can have a **maximum of two (2)** participants.
- There will be a registration fee of **Php 400.00 for each participant** of the said event.
- CHEM-IN-HUE is an on the spot poster-making contest for **two (2) hours**. Late contestants can still participate, but they can only work with the remaining time after they arrive.
- Posters will be created on a **one-fourth (1/4) illustration board** which will be provided by the UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society. The contestant should bring their own drawing and coloring materials. There is no limit on the number of colors.
- Contestants should only use **dry media**, such as oil pastel, colored pencil, and crayon. **Wet media is strictly prohibited**, such as watercolor, gouache, acrylic paint, poster paint, and oil paint. Nothing should be glued on the board.
- Either side of the board can be used. The orientation should be in **portrait**. The theme will be revealed on the day of the contest proper. The contestants should work on their own and neither with their coaches nor by pairs.
- Each entry will be evaluated by the members of the board of judges. The winner will be awarded based on the **average scores**. The decision is irrevocable. The criteria for judging are as follows:

Criteria	Corresponding Percentage
Content (Clarity of the message is presented through the output)	35%
Creativity (Incorporation of ideas and quality of artistic execution is observed)	20%
Visual Impact (Overall look/impression is remarkable)	15%
Originality (Uniqueness of the output is observed)	15%
Relevance to the Theme (Connection of visual elements and overall look to theme is observed)	15%
Total	100%



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030



AWARDING

- Winners will be announced at the **awarding ceremony**. The winning entry will be published in the official publication of the UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society. All winners will receive the following prizes based on their placement:

Placement	Prize
1st Place	Php 2500.00 + medal + certificate
2nd Place	Php 2000.00 + medal + certificate
3rd Place	Php 1500.00 + medal + certificate

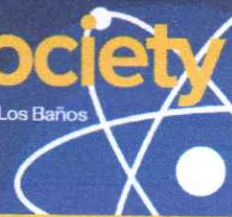
- Any forms of misconduct and plagiarism are grounds for **disqualification**. Bringing prior sketches during the competition is prohibited.

Guidelines and mechanics are subjects to change. Participants and coaches will be promptly notified for any modifications before the competition.



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030



ESSAY WRITING OFFICIAL MECHANICS

GENERAL MECHANICS

- Each school can have a **maximum of two (2) participants**.
- There will be a registration fee of **Php 400.00 for each participant** of the said event.
- All **ESSAY WRITING** entries shall be done on the spot and must be written in **Filipino**. The specific topic shall be announced at the start of the actual regional competition. The proctors will provide fact sheets relevant to the given topic.
- The competition commences as soon as the specific topic is given. Participants will be given **two (2) hours** to finish their work. The participants will be informed **fifteen (15) minutes** prior to the end of the competition to finish their essays. All entries will be collected thereafter, whether finished or not. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- Participants are **NOT allowed** to use mobile phones or any other electronic device during the contest proper. Scratch paper will be provided.
- Participants will be provided a **maximum of two (2) papers** each as their official sheet.
- Only these sheets will be accepted as valid entries. **Only black ink is allowed**. For erasure concerns, participants can bring correction tape.
- Each contestant must write the registry number given to them on the upper left-most part of the official sheet. The name of the participant and school **shall NOT be written on the paper**. Otherwise, it would be grounds for disqualification.
- There will be **three (3) judges** for the event. Entries will be judged individually by the members of the Board of Judges. Final rankings will be determined based on the **average of all judges' scores**. In the event of a tie, the entry with the higher Content score will be declared the winner. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

- The criteria for judging are as follows:

Criteria	Corresponding Percentage
Content (Clarity of the message is presented through the output)	40%
Relevance to the Theme (Connection of essay to the theme is observed)	30%
References (Knowledge about the topic prior to the fact sheet is observed)	15%
Writing Mechanics (Correct use of grammar, punctuation, and capitalization is remarkable)	15%
Total	100%

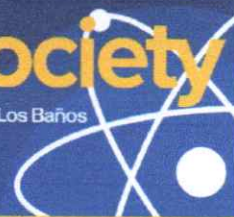
AWARDING

- Winners will be announced at the awarding ceremony. The winning entry will be published in the official publication of the UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society. All winners will receive the following prizes based on their placement:

Placement	Prize
1st Place	Php 2500.00 + medal + certificate
2nd Place	Php 2000.00 + medal + certificate
3rd Place	Php 1500.00 + medal + certificate

- Any forms of misconduct and plagiarism are grounds for disqualification.

Guidelines and mechanics are subjects to change. Participants and coaches will be promptly notified for any modifications before the competition.



EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECH OFFICIAL GUIDELINES

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Each school can have a **maximum of two (2) participants**.
- There will be a registration fee of **Php 400.00 for each participant** of the said event.
- The competition must be **delivered in Filipino**.
- Participants will **randomly pick a number** that will determine their identification number that will be the basis for the order of presentation.
 - The participant with the **lowest number will be the first to present**.
 - Other participants **will be ushered to a waiting area** and a proctor from the organization will be present with them.
 - Participants are **not allowed to use their phones while waiting**.
 - The next participant to present will be called by a committee member from the organization to prepare. **Three (3) minutes** will be given for each participant to prepare for their speech.
 - **Each participant can ask for a pencil and paper** from the committee members to write a draft of their speech.
- Each participant will only be given **five (5) minutes to present their speech**.
- With every **five (5) second excess in the time allotted, 1% of the overall score will be deducted**.
- There will be **three (3) judges** for the event. Speeches will be judged individually by the members of the board of judges. The winner will be awarded based on the **average score** given by each judge. The decision of the board of judges is final and irrevocable.



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

- The criteria for judging are as follows:

Criteria	Corresponding Percentage
Content (Clarity of the message is presented through the speech)	35%
Voice and Diction (Pronounces words well and articulates what is being said clearly with little to no stuttering)	25%
Speech Structure (The speech was presented well and had the correct structure)	15%
Stage Presence (The student used the stage well to provide a lasting impression on the audience)	15%
Nonverbal Cues (The student showed self-confidence while speaking)	10%
Total	100%

AWARDING

- The winners will be announced at the **awarding ceremony**. The winners will also receive the following prizes:

Placement	Prize
1st Place	Php 2500.00 + medal + certificate
2nd Place	Php 2000.00 + medal + certificate
3rd Place	Php 1500.00 + medal + certificate

Guidelines and mechanics are subject to change. Participants and coaches will be promptly notified for any modifications before the contest.



UPLB Chemical Kinetics Society

2F Wing A Physical Sciences Building, Institute of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, University of the Philippines Los Baños
Brgy. Batong Malake, Los Baños, Laguna 4030

SYMPOSIUM GENERAL GUIDELINES

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- The symposium is a free and open-to-all event for the 24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad. The symposium will serve as a supplementary material for students who will be participating in the Chem-In-Hue, Essay Writing, and Extemporaneous Speech Contests.
- The symposium will be held after the opening ceremony at the PSLH A room. However, contestants for the PNCO Regional Eliminations will not be able to watch as this will occur at the same time as the Qualification Round.
- The registration link will be followed up in the Facebook page for the Regional Chemistry Olympiad - Region IV.

Important Dates

Activity	Date	Time
Deadline of Registration	12 January 2026	11:59 PM
24th Regional Chemistry Olympiad	17 January 2026	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Contact Details

Key Persons	Email Address	Contact Number
Mary Lou Feliz A. Torino <i>24th RCO Event Head</i> <i>UPLB CHEMA VP for Academics</i>	ecc.uplbcks@gmail.com	09660715769
Ma. Charlene T. Ballada <i>UPLB CHEMA President</i>	uplbchemo1992@gmail.com	09204121500